AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A coupling for a fluid conducting system, the coupling comprising:

a coupling part into which an insertion section of a counterpart can be inserted, and

a locking part mounted in movable fashion on the coupling part, the locking part having a detent structure which in a detent position interacts with a complementary structure configured on the insertion section for locking the counterpart and the coupling part,

the locking part (20) being configured with two side sections (22, 23) that are parallel to each other, each of the two side sections (22, 23) having

at least one longitudinal detent element (24, 25) on the side sections' (22, 23) insides facing the coupling part (1), and

a latching structure (26~~, 27~~) at the free ~~ends~~ end of the side section sections (22~~, 23~~) and a latching structure (27) at the free end of the side section (23),

the coupling part (1) being configured with guide recesses (13) that lie opposite each other and into which the detent elements (24, 25) engage,

the coupling part (1) is equipped in the region of one end of the guide recesses (13) with a latching structure (16, 17), ~~that is~~ the latching structure (16) being configured complementary to the latching structure (26~~, 27~~) on the side section

(22, ~~23~~), the latching structure (17) being configured complementary to the latching structure (27) on the side section (23).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The coupling according to claim 1, characterized in that in the region of the other end of the guide recesses (13), the coupling part (1) is equipped with a releasing structure (18, 19) that is configured ~~in accordance with~~ complementary to the latching structure (26, 27) on the side sections (22, 23).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 2, characterized in that the latching structure (26, 27) on the side sections (22, 23) comprises protrusions, the latching structure (16, 17) and the releasing structure (18, 19) on the coupling part (1) comprising recesses that are aligned at a right angle to the detent elements (24, 25) in the longitudinal direction of the coupling part (1).

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 1 characterized in that a relief structure (30, 31) is configured in the region of the free end of the locking part (20).

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 1, characterized in that the locking part (20) exhibits a flat top section (21) that is aligned at a right angle to the side sections (22, 23).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 1 characterized in that the detent elements (24, 25) are tapered in the direction of an insertion side (3) of the coupling part (1).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 2, characterized in that a relief structure (30, 31) is configured in the region of the free end of the locking part (20).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 3, characterized in that a relief structure (30, 31) is configured in the region of the free end of the locking part (20).

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 2, characterized in that the locking part (20) exhibits a flat top section (21) that is aligned at a right angle to the side sections (22, 23).

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 3, characterized in that the locking part (20) exhibits a flat top section (21) that is aligned at a right angle to the side sections (22, 23).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 4, characterized in that the locking part (20) exhibits a flat top section (21) that is aligned at a right angle to the side sections (22, 23).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 2, characterized in that the detent elements (24, 25) are tapered in the direction of an insertion side (3) of the coupling part (1).

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 3, characterized in that the detent elements (24, 25) are tapered in the direction of an insertion side (3) of the coupling part (1).

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 4, characterized in that the detent elements (24, 25) are tapered in the direction of an insertion side (3) of the coupling part (1).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 5, characterized in that the detent elements (24, 25) are tapered in the direction of an insertion side (3) of the coupling part (1).

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The coupling according to claim 2, characterized in that the coupling part (1) includes sliding surfaces (14, 15) extending ~~substantially parallel to~~ along both sides of the guide recesses (13), the latching structure (26, 27) on the locking part (20) being configured to slide along the sliding surfaces (14, 15).

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 16, characterized in that the sliding surfaces (14, 15) include the latching structure (16, 17) at one end and the releasing structure (18, 19) at the other end.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The coupling according to claim 17, characterized in that the locking part (20) is slidable along the sliding surfaces (14, 15) from a first position in which the latching structure (26, 27) engages the latching structure (16, 17) on the coupling part (1) to lock the counterpart and the coupling part (1) to a second position in which the latching structure (26, 27) engages the releasing structure (18, 19) on the coupling part (1) to allow movement between the counterpart and the coupling part (1).